

the gods lie.

kaori
ozaki



A black and white photograph of a cloudy sky. The clouds are large, billowy, and have varying shades of gray, creating a dramatic texture. At the very bottom of the image, a dark, silhouetted cityscape is visible, showing various buildings and structures. The overall mood is contemplative and atmospheric.

the gods lie.

kaori
ozaki

contents

chapter 1

3

chapter 2

45

chapter 3

83

chapter 4

121

final chapter

159

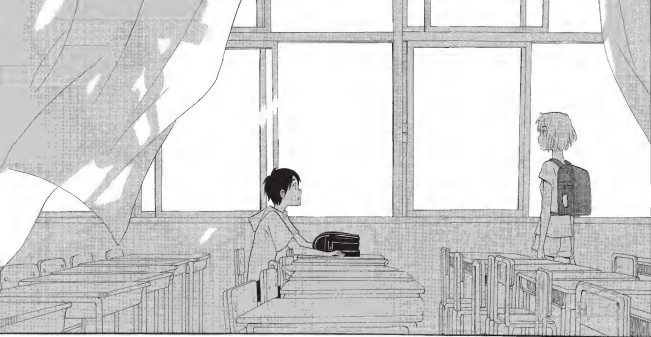


chapter 1

It was the
summer
when I
was 11.









Natsurul!



Oh!

Sure!

I'm done.
Let's go to
practice!

Suzumura,
huh...

It'd been
a while

since a
girl talked
to me.



Yeah, but
where are
her boobs?

At this rate,
by the end of
summer break
she's gonna be
taller than the
teachers.



Idiot
!

Don't
say
stuff
like
that!



Girls at
school
don't talk
to me.



That
backpack
looks weird
on her.



I like playing soccer, and, um...

WHISPER
ふそふそ
WHISPER
ふそふそ

My name is Natsuru Nanao. I'm from Tokyo.



NATSURU NANAO

I transferred to this school at the beginning of the year.



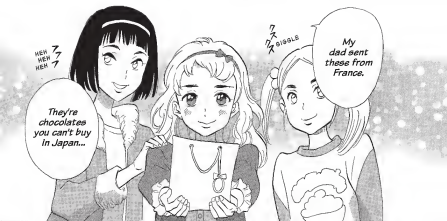
And then...



Hey, Nanao...

THURS, FEBRUARY 14

Daily Chores



* "hime" means "princess," hence her nickname



The Princess was turned down!

Rejection!

...

C'mon, Ya, let's go to practice !!

I don't want any!

!!



Whatever.

I can get by just fine without talking to girls.

...

And ever since...





Right?

'cause
I've got
soccer!

Boys,
let me
introduce
you

to your
new
coach...



Maruo
Sakai
!!



Okay,
kids, get
pumped
for a great
summer of
soccer!

WHPP
キ



Mr. Okada
was just
volunteering
because
he's with the
neighborhood
association
...

But Coach
Sakai has a
JFA license.

Lucky for
you!

What
happened
to Coach
Okada?

Huh?
Why's
there a
new coach
all of a
sudden?





Nice
shot,
Natsuru!



No, no.
That's
not gonna
work.



Throw it
to the
right!



Don't just
dribble
through
like a fool.

Get it
to the
other
side!



Faster!
Move
it!



You
gotta
look
around
you.

When you're
surrounded
by defense
like that,
the smart
thing to do
is pass.

Number 10
was right
there!



Hmm,
I think I see
what level you
guys are at.



If you really
want to
get better,
you gotta
practice on
your own
time, too!



What,
your
mom's
single?

Poor
kid.



Makes
for great
quality time
with your
dad, too.

YEP.

Not just
juggling, but
practicing
passes with
your dad on
days off, that kinda
thing.

Uhm...
I don't have
a dad, so I
can't...





He's got cancer.



Mr. Okada is at Aizawa Hospital.

By the way, my mom told me



See you!





I'll go convince Ritsuko to let me keep you...





What?!

They said
Mr. Okada
is in the
hospital
with cancer.

Hey,
Rits,
we got a
new soccer
coach
today.

He...

He
will not!!
Don't say
stuff like
that!!

People
die from
cancer,
don't they?

Is
Mr. Okada
gonna die?

KLATTER
#A

Your dad
just had
bad luck.

All
done!

Okay,
some-
times
people
die...

But Dad
died...



ACH
OOO!

Oh, so ...

I wanted
to ask
you if we
could...

We'll
go visit
Mr. Okada
sometime.

Yeah.

It won't
sto...

-PCHOO!

ACHOO
!!

CHOO
!!

What
is...

You pet
a cat
didn't
you!

BA
DUM

N...
Natsuru!

I told
you I'm
allergic!

If you come
home with
so much as
one cat hair
on you,
I can't
breathe!!

Don't
lie to
me!

I... I
didn't...



...

What
should
I do...

MEME

Go
outside
and brush
yourself
off!

Now I
gotta
clean!
Don't
come back
in 'til I'm
done!!





Are you allergic or anything?

Oh, hey, could you take this cat home?



My place is right here.

What about you, Nanao...?



Wow! Kitty!!



We can take care of it...



Yuuta!



Can you ask your parents if it's okay?

O-Okay.

I'll bring the cash to school tomorrow.



Huh ?!

If you pay for room and board.

1,000 yen a month.

That's my whole allowance ...

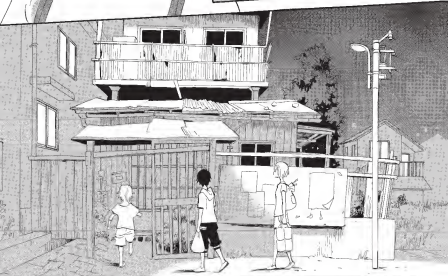
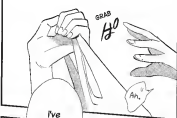
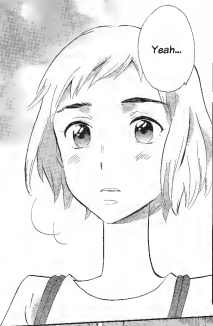


Come with us. And bring the cat.

I have to get some groceries first.

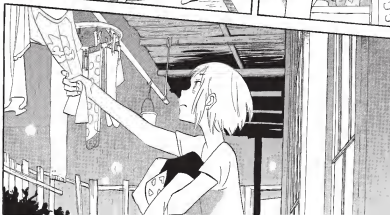


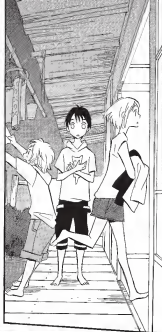








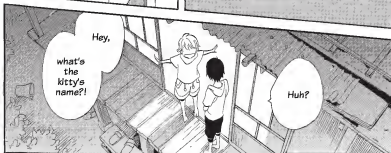






Don't
go that
way.

There's a
ghost.



Hey,

what's
the
kitty's
name?!

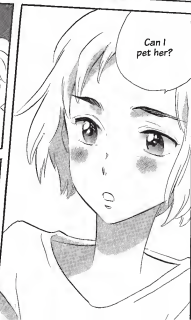
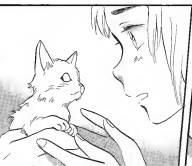
Huh?



Okay,
your
name's
Tofu!

Uh...
I didn't
name her
yet.

You can
pick one.





Aww...!



She's smiling...

...



Don't you have to talk it over with your...

Are you sure, Suzumura?

No. It's fine.



We won't abandon you.

It's okay...



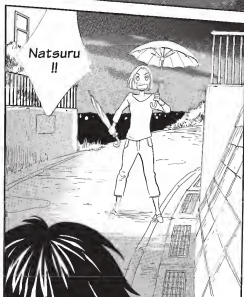
Don't
tell
anyone
...

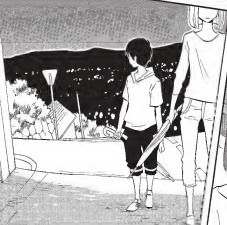
Okay,
Nanao?



It's
just

the two
of us
here...







I see...

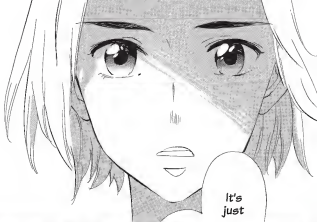
They only
shine if
someone
is home.

All
those
lights...

It's
almost
summer
vacation.







It's
just

the two
of us
here.



Don't
tell
anyone...

Okay,
Nanao?



chapter 2

A black and white manga panel showing a soccer game. A player in a dark jersey is running with the ball towards the left. Other players are visible in the background. A speech bubble from a player says "Make your turns tighter!".

Make
your
turns
tighter!

Once
you're
done, go
do some
sprints!

I played
soccer
over
summer
vacation,
too.

A black and white manga panel showing a character with short hair shouting with an open mouth and a hand held up to their face. A speech bubble says "It's too soon for you to be tired out, Nanao!".

It's too
soon for
you to be
tired out,
Nanao!



March...

?

What month
were you
born?

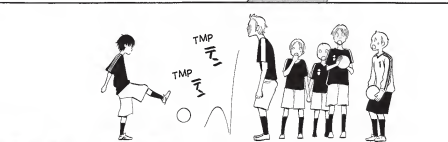
You've got
technique,
but no
stamina
at all.

And you're
pretty small
for a sixth
grader.

An early
birthday ends
up being a
disadvantage
in sports,
y'know.

Ah...
Yeah, too
early in
the year.

Poor
kid.



There he is,
the bad boy
striker!



Aw,
chill
out.

Here,
my
treat!

You're
the one
spending
your money
on junk food.
And in your
jersey.



Hmm...



You're good
enough to
get into the
prefectural
training
center.

Don't
worry
about
it too
much.



I just hope
Coach Okada
gets out of
the hospital
soon...









Hmmm...
Well...

Hey...

how come
my name has
"summer"
in it when I
was born in
March?



Well, the
doctor said
to us,

"If he can
hold out
until summer,
he'll be just
fine."

Uh-
huh.

When you
were born,
you were
very small.

I told
you how
you needed
surgery, and
we weren't
sure you'd
make it,
right?



And now
look at you!
Grown up
into a
soccer
kid!

Seems
like a dream
sometimes.



Hmm...



from
"summer"
and "stay,"
in the hope

that
you'd be
healthy
and stick
around 'til
summer.

So
your dad
named you
Natsuru,

B...
But... it's summer
vacation...

Huh?

In return,
when you
finish, we can
go to the
movies and
get Chinese.

It's fine!

I can have
watermelon
at
Grandpa's.

Rits, how
about I go
stay at
Grandpa's
house until
you finish
writing?

It's
easier to
concentrate
if you're
alone,
right?

You know
what bus
to take,
right?

All right...
Sorry, but
can you go
to Grandpa's
straight
from soccer
camp?

You don't
need to act
so mature
that quickly,
you know.

But I
appreciate
it.

That's
really
sweet...

Um, about
soccer
camp...

Ah,

right...

Nats.



Got your
phone?

Yeah.

Your
homework?

Yup.

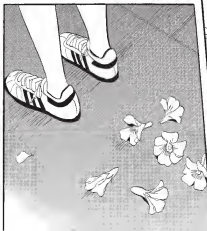


I'll give it
my all!



Uh...

okay...

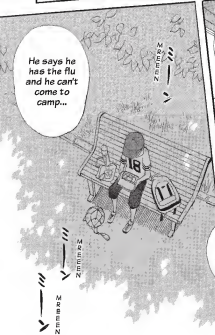




What're
you doing?
Everyone's
on the bus,
we're waiting
for you...



Uh, hi,
Natsuru?



What's
wrong?

Why
not?!

Huh?

What?



It's
Natsuru...

Coach...





You hate soccer?

...

But then...
I...

didn't want to get on the bus...

I was...

supposed to go to soccer camp today.

No, I love it.

I love it, but still...!

...

ボンッ
KICK



The
cat...

She's
getting
bigger.

Tofu...



Want
to come
see...?



Yuuta!

Sis, you brought your boy-friend!

Ah!

She's much healthier, but this foot won't move.

There's something wrong with her back foot, though.

Wow,
Tofu!

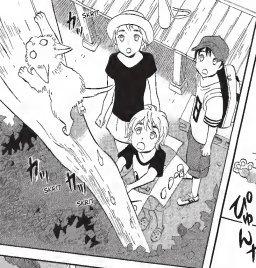
You're all soft and fluffy!

Sliken tofu.

I'd like to take her to the vet, but...

You're right.

Maybe it's broken...



Those
were
meant to
be soccer
balls,
right?

It was
really
good...

Uh-huh,
I ate it.

Y-Yeah
...

Just
got
here...

Oh!
Ri—

Mom?!

Now
what?

I'm gonna
be on Real
Madrid
someday!

HA HA

Okay,
practice is
starting...

Yeah,
I will!

MINFF!
t h p

WHEN?

Tuna
burgers.

What're
you
making?



Right now
he's crab
fishing in
Alaska.

Our
dad's a
fisherman.
He's rarely
home.

We're only
in sixth
grade!

Wow!

Huh?

You can
make
that
yourself
!?

My
mom only
gets the
frozen
stuff.

Huh?
U

What
do you
do for
money?

Suzumura

are
you two
really
living
alone?

But he
gives us
money when
he's back.



Don't
tell
anyone.

If people
find out, we'll
get taken in by
child welfare or
something and
they won't let
us stay in
this house.



She left
a long
time
ago.

What
about
your
mom...?



Then Dad
would be all
alone...

Besides,
the two
of us

are doing
all right...

SHISHI
SHISHI



You're
really
amazing,
Suzumura...

Okay.

I won't
tell
anybody,
I swear.



That was
your mom
on the phone,
right?

Yeah...

So what
are you
gonna do,
Nanao?



I
accidentally
made an
extra one.



While
we were
talking...

Well, the
mosquitoes
can still
get me

If I stay in
the drain
pipe I'll be
out of the
rain.

I
guess
I'll go
to the
park.

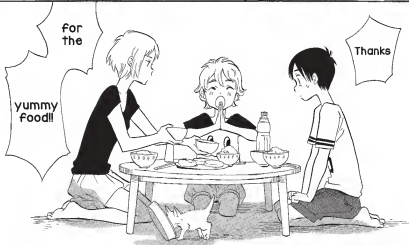


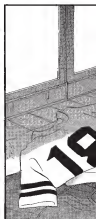
If you
want,

Huh...?

Oh,
sor-



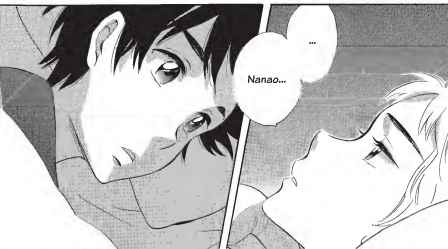


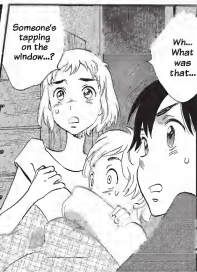


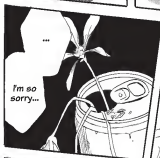








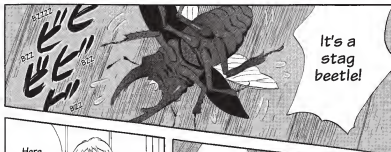








It...



It's a
stag
beetle!



Here,
Suzumura,
look at—



It
must've
flown
at the
window.

Ha ha!
Sheesh...

Oooh!
Lemme
hold it!!

It really
scared
us!







I didn't

know
the real
reason
that she
was
crying.



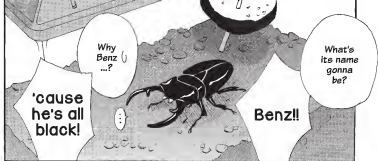
I was just
carried
away by
the feeling
of her in
my arms,

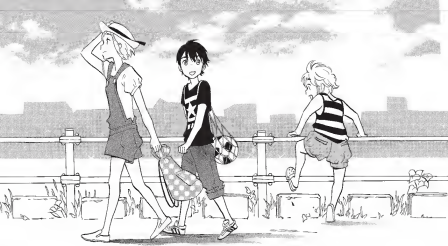
trembling
and
warm.



chapter 3









Yaaaah!



Then
what
if we
go like
this?



Sure.

I wanna
read
this new
Jump.

Can we
stop at
the book-
store?



HA
HA
HA
...



Let's
go.

...No.

It's not
something
we need...

340
yen...

You
want
them?

Be home
by lunch,
okay?

Okay!

I'll go
ahead
home.



Somehow...



Ugh,
you're all
sweaty!

Change
your
clothes
and feed
Tofu!

Sisi
Lunch
please!

We're
hooooome!

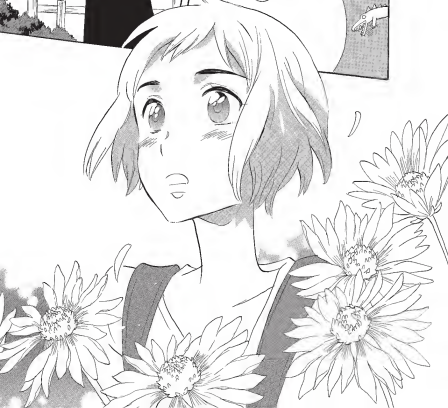
we're
home...

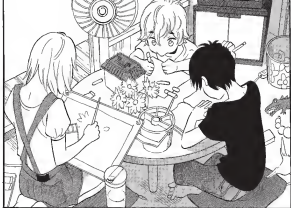
Sure!

Nanao, the
laundry's
done, would
you hang
up your
stuff?

"Sure,"
he
says...

HEH
N/A





Our
secret
summer
vacation.





Then...
I should
go
home...

We'll get
mad...

Huh...?



Stay
here.

I'll
introduce
you.

No, it's
okay!



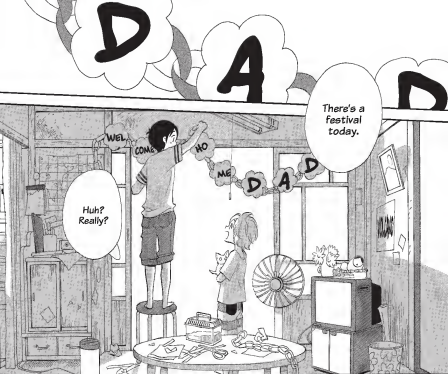
In...

Introduce
me?!



Our dad's
coming
home
today!





They close
all the
roads to
cars and
everyone
in town
dances!

Wow!

You've
never been,
Nat-Nat?

Dad
always
takes
us!

They're in
the drawer
in Grandpa's
room.

Sis, we
need thumb—

Do you
have any
thumb
tacks?

It won't
stay
up with
tape.

Okay.



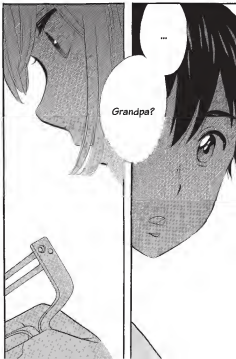
WEL

S...
Sorry,

I meant
Dad's
room...



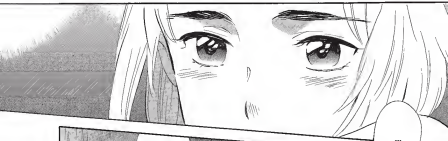
Grandpa?

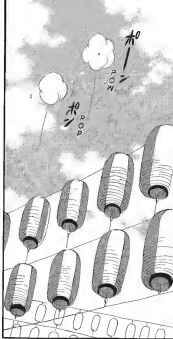




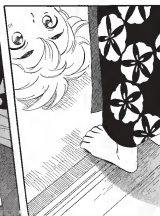












put
this
in my
hair?

Will
you



Hmm!
♥

I wanna
wear one,
too!



whaa?
?

Your
yubata got
eaten by
mosks,



I...
can't
do it
right...



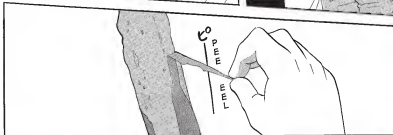


I
want
one!!



Wooow,
so many
people!

Ah!



Thanks for
getting
him one,
Natsuru...

Sis,
look.
I ate
all the
skin.

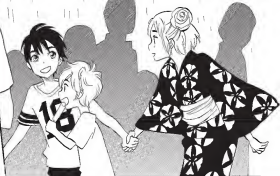
You're
being
weird
again...



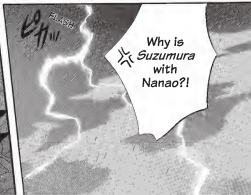
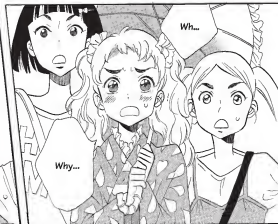


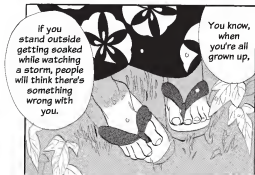


*Bon,
Bon, the
festival,*



*only
this day
and the
morrow...*







So
let's get
soaked

while we
still can.



I guess
that's
true...

It is
true.



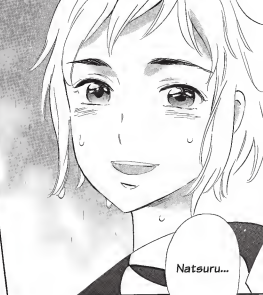
GRRRAA
RRRAAA

I'm
gonna
eat
all the
rain!!

AH HA
HA!



Sis,
Nat-Nat,
watch
this!



Natsuru...

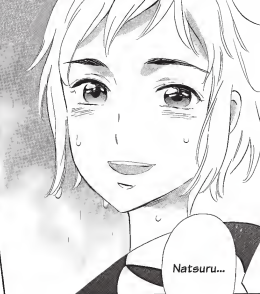


with Rio
Suzumura.

I fell in
love



Thank
you.



Natsuru...



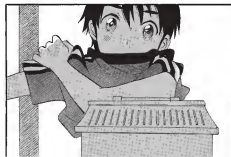
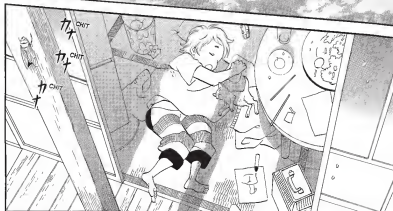
Thank
you.

I fell in
love



with Rio
Suzumura.







I have
to say
bye!

I wanna
see him
again!

Where'd
you
bury
Benz?

Awww!

He already
seemed
pretty weak
when we
found him.
It was just
his time...

Huh?

Ha ha!
No way...

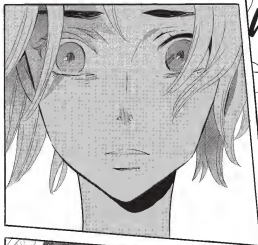
Maybe he
already
went to
Heaven.

That's
weird.
He's
gone.

I buried
him right
here...

I didn't
bury him
that deep,
though...







Just stuck
there in
the ground,
without
ever going
to Heaven.



A corpse
buried
beneath
the
raspberries
...

ME

D

A

A
summer
vacation

that I
couldn't
tell
anyone
about.



chapter 4



くらちゃ
KURACHA

You just
gotta have
crab in
fried rice.

Yep...

MINCH
むっちゃ

You know
we can't
afford the
real thing.

Dad,
that's
imitation
crab.

Oh...





All
right...



Dad!!

Uhm...
It's up
high on the
map...



Dad!!

We
don't
need
crab!!

What
are you
talking
about
?!



Huh?

Wh...

Alaska?
Is that
a super-
market?





When we
woke up
the next
day,

Dad was
gone.

And
make sure
Grandpa
doesn't fall
when he
goes to the
bathroom.

Uh-huh!

HMM!

Don't
go to
the play-
ground by
yourself.

Okay,

I'll come
home as
soon as
I can.

Rio,
dear...

Rio...

See
you later.

That's
okay,
Grandpa.
The stairs
are too danger-
ous...

Let
Grandpa
give you
a little
pin
money.

You're
such a
good
girl...

Wait
just a
moment
...

I'm
fine...

Grandpa,
you
wanna go
upstairs?

...



Sis...

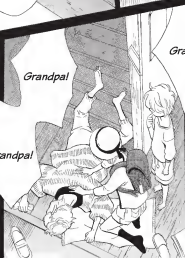
Grandpa
won't
get up...

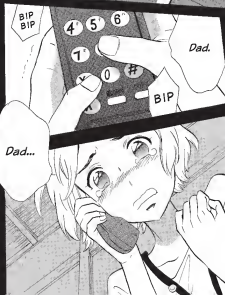


Grandpa!

Grandpa?

Grandpa!



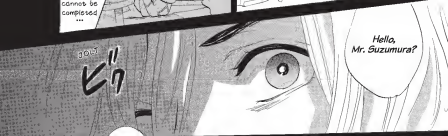


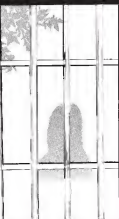


We're
sorry.
Your call
cannot be
completed
at this
time.

The party
you are
trying to
reach may
be outside
the service
area or...









*I'm so
glad
you're
here,
Rio...*



*Rio,
you
can do
anything!*



*I just
know
I can
depend
on you!*



Rio



dragged
her dead
grand-
father's
body
outside



and buried
him there
in the
backyard,
all by
herself.



N...

No...



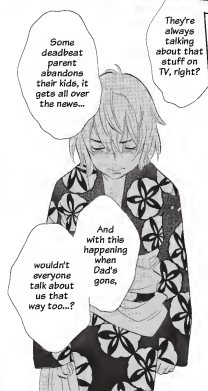
You
can't
just...

bury him
here like
this...

It's not
right...

No...







he's
still my
dad!

I
couldn't
stand
it.

Even
if he is
a jerk,

D

A



I
don't want
people who
don't know
anything

to talk
about us
like that!

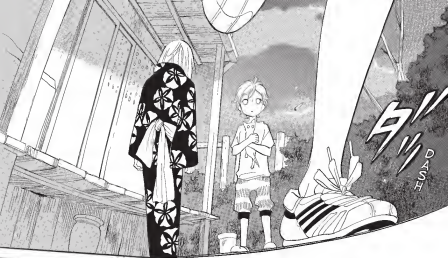


I have to
protect
everyone...

So I...

have to
do the
right
thing...







I thought
you'd be
at soccer
camp.

In your jersey
and everything.



Huh...?
It's
Natsurui!



The
festival
was
today...

I
would've
invited
you.

Did you
know?

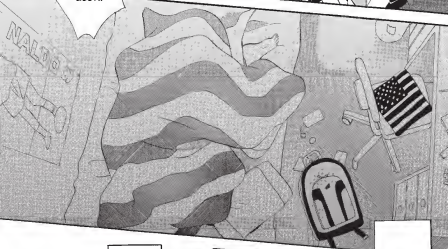




was so
far away.







But if
I keep
quiet,

does that
make me an
accomplice?

will Rio
get
arrested?

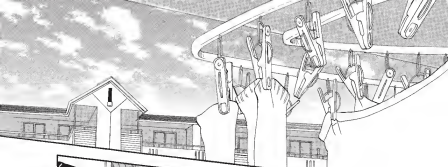
If I tell
anyone,



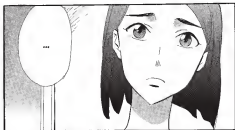
with her
skinny
arms

Rio
burled
him

all by
herself...



See
you
later.



...



Summer
vacation
was over.



You
didn't
forget
anything?

You've
got lots
of stuff
on your
first day
back.

Yeah...



Aww, crap!
Lemme
copy your
homework.

Hey, it's
been a
while!

You're
all tan!



RUSTLE
flit.

I'll come
around
and collect
them to
put up!

Please
have your
sketch
assignments
out on your
desk.



He says
it's much
prettier
long.

If I even
talk about
cutting
it short,
Daddy
gets
mad...

Hah hah
Mama
curls it for
me every
morning.



Princess!
Your hair
is so
pretty!

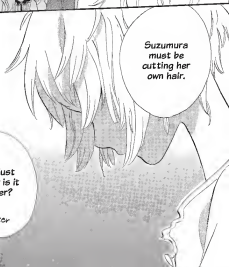


Oh my
gosh,
look...



Is it just
me, or is it
dirtier?

Snickers



Suzumura
must be
cutting her
own hair.

Suzumura

...

Her dad
still
hasn't
come
home...

...

And your
clothes...

Your
mother
won't buy
you new
ones...?

Are you
all right?

Your
hair's all
messy.

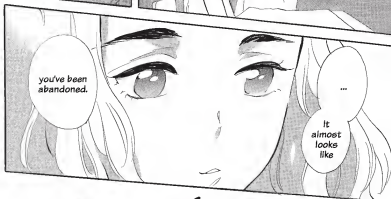
Would
you like to
borrow my
brush?



It's not your fault that your parents don't take care of you.

If you need help, talk to me, okay?

I think it's just awful when kids have to suffer.

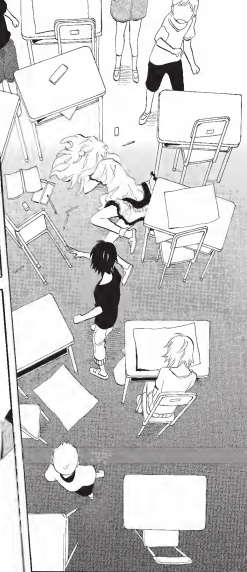


you've been abandoned.

...
It almost looks like

SLAP







Natsuru hit a girl!!

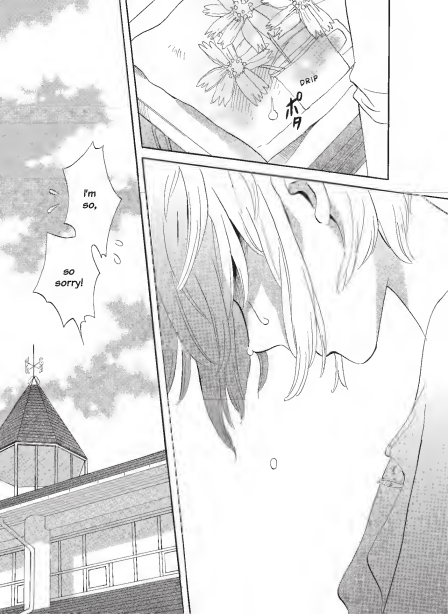
Oh no,
your nose is
bleeding
!!



GASP
はっ



Take her
to the
nurse's
office!



I'm
so,

so
sorry!



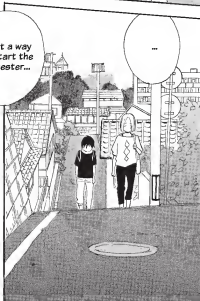
All right, you two...

I am so terribly sorry!



Can't believe I was called in...
It's like a soap opera...

What a way to start the semester...





Something's been
wrong with
you since
summer
vacation!

You
won't get
away with
staying
quiet
forever!

Natsuru!!



No
matter...

the
reason...

What
happened?
What
happened?!

It's *never*
okay to hit
a girl, no
matter what
the reason!
You know
that!



what if
that's the
only thing
you can
do?

What
then?!

But even
if you
know it's
wrong,

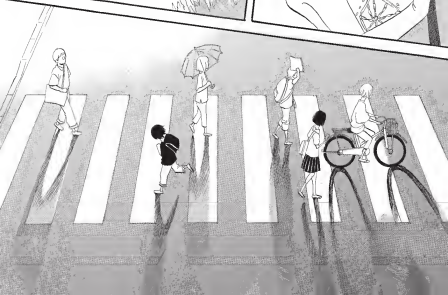
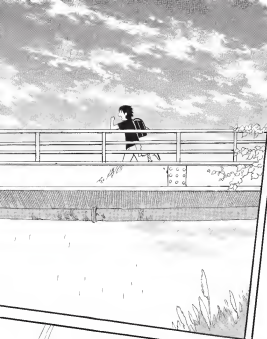


What
else
could I...

What
was I
supposed
to do?!

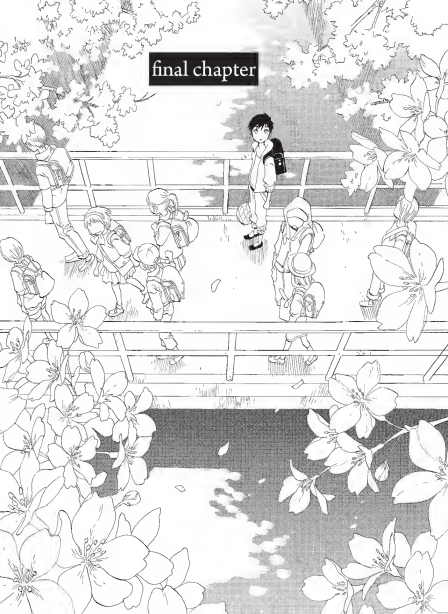


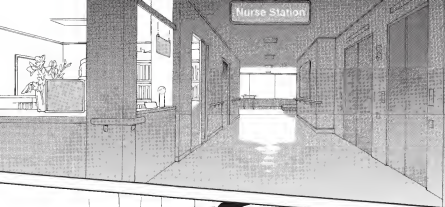
Natsuru!!





final chapter







Coach
Okada...





Oh,
I'm all
right.

How are
you doing,
Coach?

I had
surgery,
and I'm
fine now.



You
came
all this
way
just to
see me?



Sorry
I had to
quit so
suddenly.

You
must've
been
worried.



Yeah.

Uhm...



The team
practicing
hard?

How is
everyone?





Let's play
soccer
again
sometime.

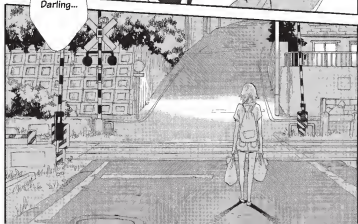
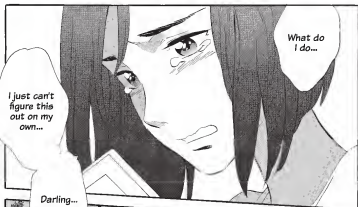


Natsuru
...





What do I do...?







WHUD
L
#

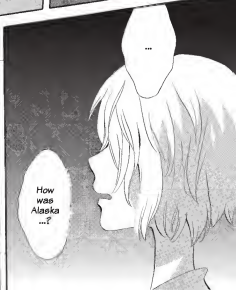


Where's
the
crab?

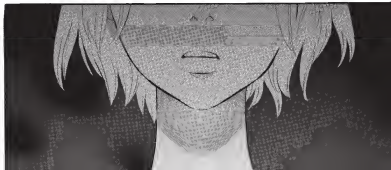


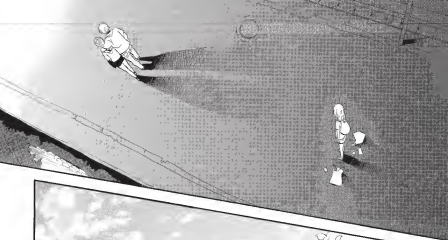
Huh?

Do you
know
that
kid?



How
was
Alaska
...?







I'm hungry...



Sis...



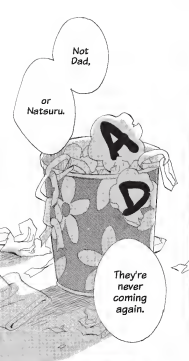
...



Is Nat-Nat gonna come play with me...?



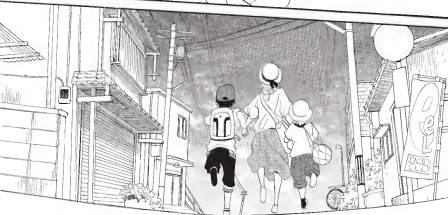
...

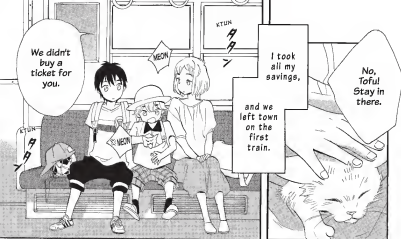






Rio.





Maybe
there are
animals
nobody's
ever seen

I wonder
what's
out there
in those
mountains
...

that get
to live their
whole lives
in the quiet,
without ever
meeting
anyone...

We didn't
know
where
we were
going.

Note-
book.

Clothes-
pin.

K... k...
ka...

KA-
BOOM!

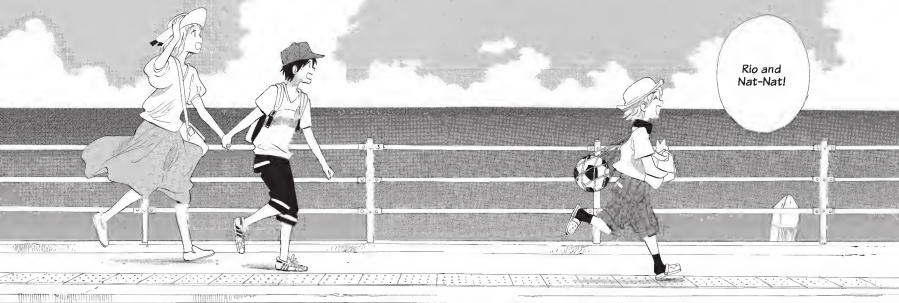
HushU

KTUN

But
nobody
asked.

KTUN
タタタタ...



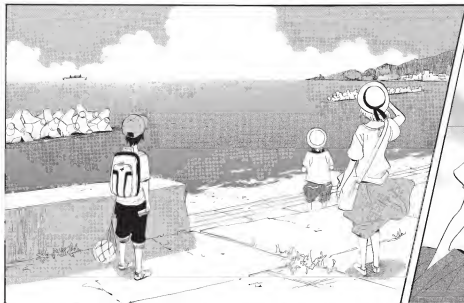


Rio and
Nat-Nat!

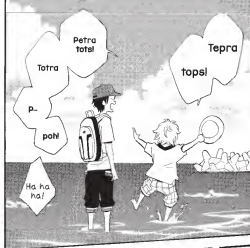


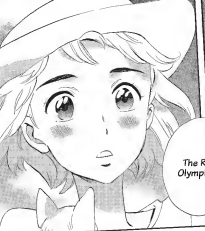
They're
tetra-
pods.

What's
that?
A jungle
gym?!



Ooh,
Sis, look!
The
ocean!!





The Rio
Olympics!



Hey,
the next
summer
Olympics

are gonna
be in Rio.



The
Japan
Olympic
team?!
That's
normal?

I wonder
if I can
make it
in time...



I just
want

to be
a

normal
bride...



What
do you
wanna be,
Rio?

Yuuta...

...

Uhm...

Uh,
that
was...

told me
that you
said I'm
cool...

Huh?

Whose?

Aww...

You just
meant
my
helmet
...?

No.
You are
cool.

...

back
when
they had
the bike
safety
class...

You were
the only
one who
had a cool
helmet...

U That's
all...

But you had an
old lady bike.



When
you run,



Whenever
we play
soccer in
gym class,
nobody
can keep
up with
you.

Because
you're so
fast.



I can
hear the
wind,

and it's like
the whole
field sways.



you might
be taller
than me.

When you
grow up,

Natsuru...



Like this,
maybe.

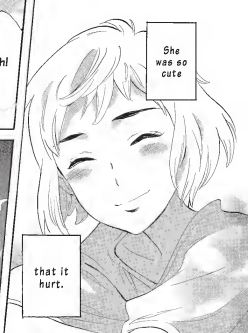


Ah!



Yuuta's
swim-
ming! ♪

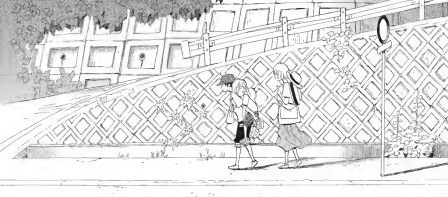
TA HEE
TA HEE



She
was so
cute

that it
hurt.





I've never
been this
far away



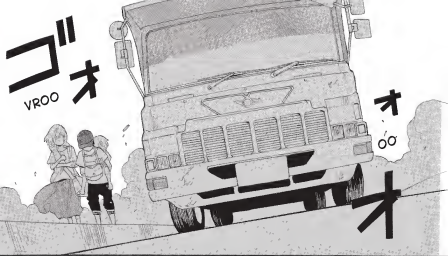
from
home
without
Mom
before.

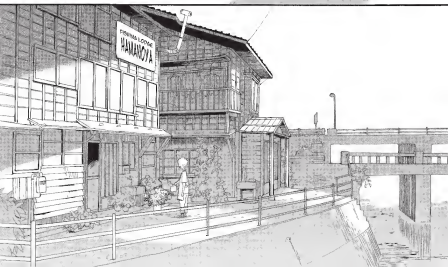
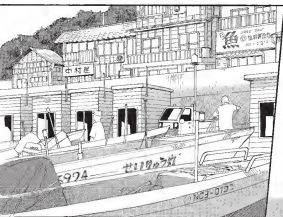


Is he
too
heavy?

Want to
switch?

I'm
fine.





This
is an Inn,
right?

Can we
stay
tonight?

E-
Excuse
me...



it's jellyfish
season.
You can't go
swimming,
OK?

Yes,
but...



Summer
vacation's
over,
isn't it?

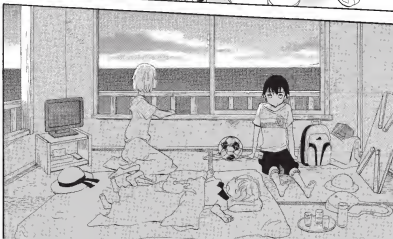
Are
you
kids
here

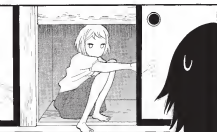
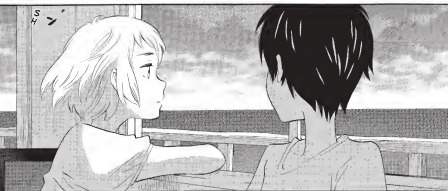
Where
are
your
folks?

by
yourselves?



And I can scrape something together for dinner.





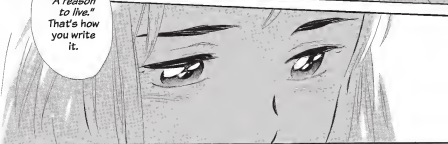




You know
what my
name
means?



"A reason
to live."
That's how
you write
it.



a blue sky
I could
only see
from a
distance...

To me,
you were
always
like

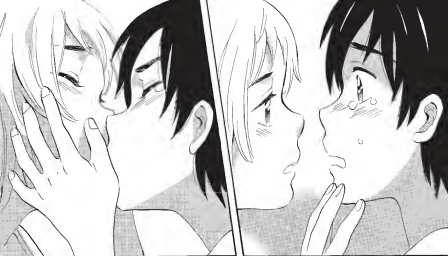


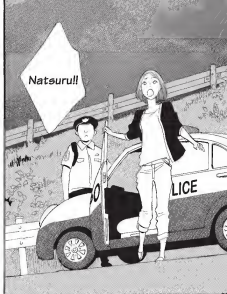


Thank
you,
Natsuru.

I never
dreamed
that
you'd
become

part
of our
family...







Oh,
thank
you.

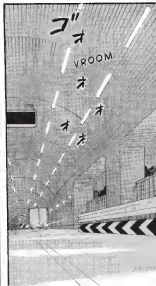
I'm
sorry you
couldn't
stay...

Hang
on!

but eat
this.



Natsuru.





Rits...



"the
gods
will
see,
and I'll get
better."

"If you're a
good boy,
and listen
to your
mother,"

"So wait
for me
and be
good,
okay?"

When
Dad was
sick,

in the
hospital,
he told
me...



So I must
not have
been good
enough.



But he
died...



Why?



Some-
times

even the
gods lie
to us.



It's
because...

they
love
you

very
much.



Maybe
because
I was so
little.



I
wasn't

Rits...

all that
sad when
Dad died.

The
gods
lie.

They lie
because
it's the
best
they
can do.



...I
know.

So I'm

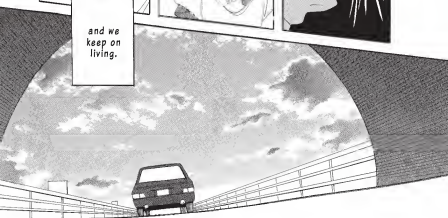
okay
now.



and we
keep on
living.



We reach
out for
their lies





after
Rio told
the police
what had
happened,
they searched
the garden

and
found
her
grand-
father's
remains.

The
next
day,



According
to the
tabloids
and the
gossip
shows
on TV,

apparently
he was just

"sick of
living at
home."

Abandoned
Children—
12-year-old Girl Buries
Own
Grandfather



Rio's
father
wasn't
a fisher-
man.

He never
went to
Alaska.
He'd been
staying
with a
nightclub
hostess,
in the very
same town.



...was what Ritsuko had to say.

If it was the mother who'd abandoned them, they'd be tearing her apart.



I punched a few more kids.

Rumors about Rio spread through the school.



Ironically, while Rio had only been trying to keep the world's prying eyes away from her father,

all the attention landed on her—the sixth-grade girl who buried her grandfather by herself.



But I don't care.

Ritsuko kept getting called into school to apologize, but she never scolded me for it.

Now my reputation at school has hit rock bottom.

8 whole
centimeters.

I grew

One
day in
winter

I went
to where
Rio's house
used to be.
It was a
vacant lot.



But Rio
must have
been sad
about it.

Seeing
that empty
house fall
into
disrepair
had been
heart-
rending.

I felt a
little bit
relieved.





I heard
the two of
them are
living in a
facility in
another
town.



I
haven't
seen

Grade 6 Class 2
Rio Suzumura

either
Rio or
Yuuta
since
that
day.

Tofu was
adopted,
thanks
to the
efforts
of animal
rescue volun-
teers.

They'll
have to
remove
her
paralyzed
foot.





A cat
with one
missing
foot...

But she
learned
to run
with
three
feet.

There's
nothing
sad about
that.

Gol

Gol



A cat
with one
missing
foot...

But she
learned
to run
with
three
feet.



There's
nothing
sad about
that.

Gol

Gol





Coach
Okada's
going
to come
cheer you
on!

I'm so
glad.

When you
start middle
school,
you'll join the
soccer club
instead...

So
tomorrow's
the last
game with
your team,
huh?

Yeah.

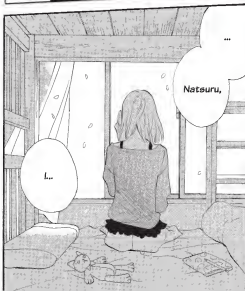
are
kinda
heavy...

Middle
school
uniforms

It's Rio!!

Natsuru!!

It's for
you!





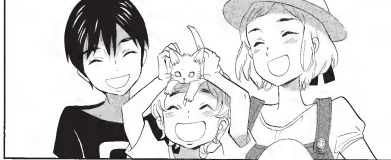
I
dreamed

that
you were
a soccer
star.

I have
this
feeling

it'll
really
come
true.





Natsuru...

We'll see
each other
again.



END

The Gods Lie

KODANSHA COMICS Digital Edition

The Gods Lie copyright © 2013 Kaori Ozaki

English translation copyright © 2016 Kaori Ozaki

All rights reserved.

First published in Japan in 2013 by Kodansha Ltd., Tokyo.

Electronic Publishing rights for this English edition arranged through Kodansha Ltd., Tokyo.

No portion of this book may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means without written permission from the copyright holders.

English digital edition published by Kodansha Advanced Media, LLC, San Francisco.

www.kodanshacomics.com

ISBN: 9781682334300

Digital Edition: 1.0.0

Translation: Melissa Tanaka

Production: Risa Cho

Lorina Mapa

Translation provided by Vertical Comics, 2016